

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 1-3 are presently pending.

The specification has been amended to correct a grammatical error relating to translation uncovered during further review of the application.

The Examiner's statement that claims 2 and 3 include allowable subject matter is acknowledged.

In view of such amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the claims, as presently presented, are respectfully requested.

EXAMINER'S ACTION

Claims 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over by U.S. Patent No. 7,046,230 ("*Zadesky et al.*") in view of US 2006/0075151 ("*Lin*"), and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,103,381 ("*Wright et al.*").

Independent claim 1, as amended, is directed to a network walkman including, in relevant part, a universal serial bus ("USB"), an audio output line extending from an audio signal amplifier circuit, a switch integrated circuit connected to the USB and the audio output line respectively, and an USB/audio output interface at the output terminal of the walkman. Claim 1 requires that the switch integrated circuit is "a single relay integrated circuit for automatically switching between a USB mode and an audio output mode". In addition, amended claim 1 recites that, when the interface is connected to a USB interface of a computer, the relay circuit is in the USB mode, and connects the interface output line to the USB such that the interface is a USB interface. Further, amended claim 1 recites that, when the interface is connected to an audio earphone line, the relay circuit is in the audio output mode, and connects the interface output line

to the audio output line such that the interface is an audio output interface. Thus, the single relay integrated circuit of the walkman advantageously acts as a switch device to accomplish the synthesis and separation of the USB signal and the audio signal, such that signal input and output can be realized by means of a single interface. (See application, page 7, lines 12-16).

The Examiner admitted that Zadesky *et al.* does not disclose a switch integrated circuit for collinear transmission of USB and audio output for use in connection with a media player. Furthermore, Lin *et al.* does not teach or suggest such switch integrated circuit. Although Wright *et al.* discloses a switching circuit in which USB and audio signals share conductors, Wright *et al.* does not teach or suggest a single relay integrated circuit that automatically switches an interface of the device in which it is contained between USB and audio output modes, as required by claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Wright *et al.* does not provide the motivation to one of skill in the art to modify the media device of Zadesky *et al.* or Lin *et al.* to include an interface that automatically switches between a USB interface or an audio output interface, based on the connection of a single relay integrated circuit, via the interface, to a USB interface of a computer or an audio earphone line, respectively, as required by claim 1.

Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable over the cited combination of the references. Withdrawal of the Section 103 rejection is, therefore, respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

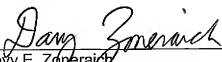
For the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all of the claims, as presently presented, are patentable.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if it is believed that further

amendment and/or discussion would help to advance the prosecution of the present application.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-3 are, therefore, respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Davy E. Zeperaich
Registration Number 37,267

NORRIS, McLAUGHLIN & MARCUS
P.O. Box 1018
Somerville, New Jersey 08876-1018
Phone: (908) 722-0700
Fax: (908) 722-0755
E-Mail: jpdept@nmmlaw.com

Attorney Docket No: 104300-002US